



EEB Residential Committee Meeting

Monday, November 18, 2019, 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Eversource, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, CT

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

Voting Committee Members: Adrienne Houel (Committee Chair), Amy McLean Salls, Michael Li, Taren O'Connor (phone)

Utility Committee Members: Will Riddle, Ron Araujo, Larry Rush, Diane Del Rosso

Board Consultants: Richard Faesy, Craig Diamond, Glenn Reed (phone)

Others: Steve Cowell, Linda Foreman, Madeline Priest, Kim Stevenson, Patrice Gillespie, Leticia Colon, Vivian Perez, Stephanie Weiner, Rohanna Ariff, Tammy Wilson (phone), Marcus Smith (phone)

Public Input/Comments

Steve Cowell, E For the Future. He said that E For the Future had hired a consultant to do an analysis of Connecticut's workforce development needs.

Approval of October 10 Residential Committee meeting minutes

Ms. O'Connor moved to approve. Ms. McLean Salls 2nd. All present voted to approve. **October 10, 2019 minutes approved.**

Program performance/budget update

Mr. Araujo said that Eversource was on track to exceed their Residential savings goals, but that they would be somewhat short of goal on Residential spending. Mr. Riddle said that the UIL companies would also exceed Residential savings goals, and would also be somewhat short of goal on Residential spending.

\$75 HES co-pay impact report

Mr. Araujo provided a presentation for Eversource. He said HES leads in October had doubled from the previous month, and that they were very strong so far in November as well. He said this showed that the impact of the co-pay reduction was significant in boosting demand for HES services. Ms. Houel asked what the contribution was of the expected increase in demand for the colder months. Mr. Araujo said that demand in October and November this year was much higher than would otherwise be expected. Ms. McLean Salls asked if it would be beneficial to keep the \$75 co-pay permanently. Mr. Araujo noted that with decreased savings from lighting, the monetary value of HES would decrease, so a reduced co-pay would be beneficial. He recommended that the Board discuss keeping the co-pay at \$75 permanently at the next Board meeting. Mr. Li said that DEEP was reconsidering its approach to the co-pay. Mr. Li said that he had several questions, including what the optimal HES co-pay level should be, how a lower co-

¹ Meeting materials available in Box.com: <https://app.box.com/s/nd9jwfe7ayucy29js0tkzo8ipt48s2kh>

pay would impact cost-effectiveness, whether the co-pay should vary over the course of the year, and what the co-pays were in other states. He said the new Administration might want to re-think the state's energy efficiency programs. Ms. Colon noted that a former study had concluded that a co-pay under \$100 was best for customers. She noted that vendors had previously requested that the co-pay be less than \$100, and that it should not vary over the course of the year. She said the educational component (discussing options with customers) was an important piece of the HES program. Mr. Li said he would like to see greater demand for add-on measures. Ms. Houel asked Mr. Faesy to write up a summary of the issues and trade-offs discussed today, and then use that summary to support a discussion of the co-pay at the December meetings. Ms. O'Connor said that \$75 might be a little low for the co-pay, and that she would like to see data on what the best level should be. She said that varying the co-pay would need to be done very carefully.

Heat Pump Fuel Switch Pilot Update

Mr. Araujo provided an update. He said that the pilot had been a slow process. Mr. Riddle said that UI did not yet have any interested customers.

PURA Energy Affordability Docket Update

The Committee discussed the best approach for the Board to take regarding comments it could submit into the PURA docket on energy affordability. It was agreed that the comments should be high level, and should focus on what the Board and programs are already doing in regard to energy affordability. It was also agreed that the Board would not provide any opinions or requests with these comments, although it might choose to do so in the future. The comments would need to be submitted by the PURA deadline of December 4.

Weatherization Barriers

Green Bank. Ms. Priest and Ms. Stevenson provided a presentation.

- 1) Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI). They said the main goal of the initiative was to analyze data of three key health & safety issues (actual patient cases across the state) to see which types of situations (remediation/issue resolution) could be paid for by Medicaid. They said there were three areas being analyzed: lead poisoning, asthma, and trips and falls. Ms. McLean said she was concerned about duplication of the GHHI and existing resources. She said that the focus should be on the data and unlocking Medicaid, and not on programmatic issues and healthcare providers.
- 2) Smart-E, LIME Loan, EnergizeCT Health and Safety Revolving Loan fund for low-and-moderate income multi-family housing. Ms. Priest and Ms. Stevenson provided an overview presentation of the Green Bank's Smart-E and Multi-Family programs.

One Touch presentation. Mr. Smith and Ms. Ariff provided a presentation. They described the CT Children's Hospital healthy homes programs. They noted that over half of hospitals nationally had allocated resources toward housing conditions as a way to impact health. They said that CT Children's Hospital had focused on lead poisoning in the past, but they were expanding into asthma, radon, and trips/falls.

DOE Home Energy Score

Ms. Del Rosso provided an update on the Companies' response to Condition 14 on the Home Energy Score, and the HELIX project. There was some concern expressed regarding the HELIX data being released to the public. Mr. Faesy will follow up with NEEP.

CTAC update

The next CTAC meeting will be on December 10.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.